

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSAKA 00319 020332Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 /066 W
-----080496 020430Z /75

R 010030Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC3407
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL FUKUOKA
AMCONSUL SAPPORO
AMCONSUL NAHA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OSAKA KOBE 0319

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, JA
SUBJECT: KYOTO ELECTION PROSPECTS
REF: OSAKA-KOBE 242

SUMMARY: LOCAL POLITICAL FIGURES FAVOR CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE
HAYASHIDA TO WIN KYOTO GOVERNORSHIP, AS CAMPAIGN ENTERS FINAL WEEK.
CONCURRENT THREE-WAY RACE FOR UPPER HOUSE SEAT MAY WELL FOLLOW RESULT
OF GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION WHICH IS STILL GETTING MOST OF ATTENTION.
DSP REMAINS "ODD MAN OUT" IN PREFECTURAL ALLIANCES. END SUMMARY.

1. SUOUNDINGS OF KYOTO JSP AND DSP, AND LOCAL POLITICIANS IN OTHER
REGIONAL PREFECTURES IN LAST FEW DAYS HAVE ELICITED RATHER CAUTIOUS
BUT UNIFORM PREDICTIONS THAT CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE YUKIO HAYASHIDA
APPEARS LIKELY WINNER OF ELECTION FOR KYOTO GOVERNOR. JSP AND DSP
BOTH OF WHOM SAID THAT COOPERATION AMONG PARTIES SUPPORTING SHAKOMIN
CANDIDATE HAD NOT JELLED. LOCAL DSP ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL NOTRTHERN
SECTIONS OF KYOTO PREFECTURE HAVE IN FACT COME OUT OPENLY FOR
HAYASHIDA. KYOTO SHIMBUN POLITICAL REPORTER AND REGIONAL LDP SOURCE
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WERE MORE CAUTIOUS, FORMER COMMENTING THAT KOMEITO APPEARED TO BE
STEPPING UP EFFORTS ON BEHALF OYAMADA IN LAST FEW DAYS, AND LP

SOURCE SAYING THAT MUCH DEPENDED ON EFFECTIVENESS OF EFFORTS OF OUT-
GOING GOVERNOR NINAGAWA ON BEHALF OF HIS PREFERRED CANDIDATE SUGIMURA
(BACKED BY JCP). HYOGO PREFECTURE JSP OFFICIAL ON OTHER HAND RE-
PORTED RUMORS THAT IF ELECTION APPEARED IN DOUBT AS BETWEEN

HAYASHIDA AND YAMADA,
GOVERNOR NINAGAWA WOULD ABANDON SUGIMURA TO HIS FATE AND BACK H
YASHID

A.

AS THESE DIVERGENT INTERPRETATIONS SUGGEST, CAMPAIGN IS BEING
HOTLY CONTESTED, WITH THE THREE CANDIDATES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE
NATIONAL LEVEL SUPPORTERS CONCENTRATING ON KYOTO CITY FOR
REMAINING WEEK OF ELECTIONEERING.

2. PARALLEL THREE-WAY RACE HAS EVOLVED FOR NATIONAL UPPER HOUSE
SEAT VACATED BY HAYASHIDA. LDP HAS NOMINATED FORMER UPPER
HOUSE MEMBER MINORU UEDA (RUNNING AS INDEPENDENT), JCP HAS
NOMINATED PREFECTURAL COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN MASARU UEDA, FORMER
LOWER HOUSE MEMBER FROM KYOTO FIRST DISTRICT, AND JSP, KOMEITO, AND
SHAMINREN HAVE NOMINATED KYOTO INDUSTRIAL UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR
HIROSHI SAKAKIDA, IDENTIFIED WITH COMMITTEE WHICH SET UP SHAMINREN
ORGANIZATION IN KYOTO LAST YEAR. DSP AS IN CASE OF GUBERNATORIAL
RACE HAS DELAYED ANNOUNCING A CHOICE. LDP REPORTEDLY BELIEVES
THAT UPPER HOUSE ELECTION DEPENDS ON GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION AND
INTENDS CONCENTRATE ON LATTER. JCP NOMINATION WILL PROBABLY
STRENGTHEN ACTIVITY OF PARTY FAITHFUL IN SUPPORT OF SUGIMURA FOR
GOVERNOR BUT COULD ALIENATE POTENTIAL NON-JCP SUPPORT FOR
SUGIMURA. ALLIANCE NOMINATION OF SAKAKIDA DOES NOT APPEAR TO
IMPROVE YAMADA'S PROSPECTS AND ON OTHER HAND STRENGTHENS IMPRESSION
THAT DSP IS GETTING SHORT END OF "SHAKOMIN" COOPERATION. UPPER HOUSE
VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE APRIL 23.

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3. PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY BY-ELECTION NOMINATIONS SIMILARLY DO NOT
BEAR OUT REPORT (OSAKA-KOBE 182) THAT JSP AND KOMEITO WOULD SUPPORT
DSP CANDIDATES FOR TWO SEATS. IN ONE DISTRICT DSP AND JCP HAVE TWO-
WAY RACE, BUT IN TWO OTHER DISTRICTS JSP IS FIELDING ITS OWN CANDIDATE,
AND FOR FOURTH DISTRICT SHAMINREN CANDIDATE APPEARS TO HAVE
ALLIANCE SUPPORT AGAINST LDP AND JCP.

4. CONSERVATIVE VICTORY IN KYOTO ELECTION FOR GOVERNOR WOULD BE
SIGNIFICANT PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST FOR LDP. HOWEVER, ASSESSMENTS
THAT HAYASHIDA IS LEADING APPEAR TO BE BASED LARGELY ON INTANGIBLE
ELEMENTS OF ALLEGEDLY UNIQUE KYOTO POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY PLUS
NEGATIVE FACTOR OF LESS ORGANIZED ACTIVITY BY OTHER PARTIES THAN
ANTICIPATED. SITUATION COULD CHANGE IF KOMEITO AND NINAGAWA
REALLY BUCKLE DOWN ON BEHALF OF YAMADA AND SUGIMURA RESPECTIVELY
DURING REMAINDER OF CAMPAIGN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OSAKA00319
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780142-1025
Format: TEL
From: OSAKA KOBE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197804103/aaaadjwy.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a76935a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 OSAKA KOBE A-242
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2826463
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KYOTO ELECTION PROSPECTS
TAGS: PINT, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a76935a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014